(b) if so, what are the reasons for which land records are not maintained properly; and

(c) what steps Government are taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) Although the importance of a proper land record system has been emphasised right from the First Five Year Plan, the land records in many parts of the country are not being maintained to the desired level. Land being a State subject, necessary action on this is required to be taken by the respective States. However, States have attributed this condition to constraint of resources, time-consuming settlement operations and lack of infrastructural facilities.

(c) To improve the status of land records, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Strengthening of Revenue Administration and Updating of Land Records was approved for implementation in 1987-88. The scheme envisages strengthening of machinery for survey and settlement organisation at State and District level including use of new technology such as photo-mapping, aerial survey, mechanisation of land records and use of modern equipments and techniques of preparation, maintenance, updating and storage of land records. The scheme is in operation in 29 States|UTs at present. Financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 27.57 crores has been provided to the States|UTs since inception of the scheme towards central share. In addition to this a Central Sector Scheme of Computerisation of Land Records has also been started in 1988-89. At present 19 pilot projects on computerisation of land records are in operation in one district each of the 19 States.

Updating of land records

@798. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the updating of land record has not made much progress in the country;

(b) whether there is an urgent need to update the land records expeditiously;

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in that direction; and

(d) the State-wise progress as on 30th October, 1991?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) The updating of land records has not made the desired progress in some States of the country.

(b) The land records need to be updated expeditiously for implementation of land reforms and executing various rural development programmes.

(c) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Strengthening of Revenue Administration and Updating of Land Records is in operation since 1987-88. The scheme envisages strengthening of machinery for survey and settlement organisation at State and District level including use of new technology such as photo-mapping, aerial survey, mechanisation of land records and use of modern equipments and techniques of preparation, maintenance, updating and storage of land records. Financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 27.57 crores has been provided to 29 States/UTs towards Central share under the scheme. In addition to this, a Central Sector Scheme of Computerisation of Land Records is also in operation since 1988-89. At present, 19 Pilot projects on computerisation of land records are in operation in one district each of 19 States. It is proposed to continue the above two schemes in the 8th Plan with higher outlay.

(d) Land being a State subject, the progress of updating of land records is monitored by the respective States.

@Previously Unstarred Question 209, transferred from the 22nd November, 1991.